

#### State of Utah

#### Department of **Natural Resources**

MICHAEL R. STYLER Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

> JOHN R. BAZA Division Director

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR. Governor

> GARY R. HERBERT Lieutenant Governor

> > April 10, 2006

Kennecott Utah Copper Corporation Paula Doughty P.O. Box 6001 Magna, Utah 84044-6001

Subject: Approval of Little Valley Borrow, Kennecott Utah Copper Corporation (KUC), Bingham Canyon, M/035/002, Salt Lake County, Utah

Dear Ms. Doughty:

The Division has reviewed your notification of the proposed borrow site in Little Valley. The Division approves your request to remove the material outlined in your notification.

On March 8, 2006 the Division inspected the borrow site. The site of the proposed borrow is in an area that was a previously disturbed borrow.

Kennecott has made a commitment to recontour, replace soil, and seed the area once the proposed 10,000 cubic vards of material is removed from the site. Allowing KUC to remove this material from this borrow will result in the reclamation of this pre-existing disturbance.

The Division appreciates your notification that was submitted in sufficient time to allow for an inspection of the site.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please call me at (801) 538-5258 or Doug Jensen at (801) 538-5382.

Sincerely,

Susan M. White

Mining Program Coordinator

Susan M. White

Minerals Regulatory Program



## State of Utah DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

MICHAEL R. STYLER Executive Director JOHN R. BAZA Division Director

### Inspection Report Minerals Regulatory Program

Supervisor ARH

Report Date May 4, 2006

Mine Name: Bingham Canyon	Permit number: M0350002		
Operator Name: Kennecott Utah Copper	<b>Inspection Date:</b> May 4, 2006		
	<b>Time:</b> 9:45-10:20 AM		
Inspector(s): Paul Baker			
Other Participants: Kelly Payne			
Mine Status: Active	Weather:	Cloudy, 60's	
Elements of Inspection	Evaluated	Comment	Enforcement
1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds			
2. Public Safety (shafts, adits, trash, signs, highwalls)			
3. Protection of Drainages / Erosion Control			
4. Deleterious Material			
5. Roads (maintenance, surfacing, dust control, safety)			
6. Concurrent Reclamation			
7. Backfilling/Grading (trenches, pits, roads,			
highwalls, shafts, drill holes)		<u>–</u>	
8. Water Impoundments			
9. Soils			
10. Revegetation			
11. Air Quality			

#### **Purpose of Inspection:**

The purpose of the inspection was to look at three areas from which material may be borrowed to use in reclamation of the Bonneville Crusher area. We needed to decide whether topsoil should be saved from these areas.

#### **Inspection Summary:**

9. Soils

12. Other

Two of the prospective borrow areas have a soil layer with some degree of organic matter accumulation. The first of these is composed mostly of alluvial material, and the second has bedrock under the soil. The third area also has alluvial material, but Mr. Payne said the surface layers have been stripped from this area. The third area, despite having had soil stripped, has the best vegetation cover, primarily introduced perennial grasses.

All three areas are infested with yellow toadflax, which, although it is not a noxious weed, is a species the state is trying diligently to control. The first two areas also have a fair amount of cheatgrass. Also within the area to be reclaimed are some patches of whitetop.

#### **Conclusions and Recommendations:**

The operator should be very careful in the whitetop-infested areas to avoid spreading it.

To prevent or slow the further spread of yellow toadflax, I suggest not salvaging the topsoil. As much as possible, the topsoil should be buried.

Inspection Date: May 4, 2006; Report Date: May 4, 2006

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The alluvial deposits contain enough unconsolidated material that I believe revegetation success is likely without saving soil in these areas. If the area with bedrock is used as borrow, I suggest using some of the alluvial material as soil.

Mr. Payne showed me a seed mixture being proposed for reseeding the entire area. I did not know what "chocolate flower" was, but I understand it may be blanket flower.. If so, it is acceptable. The only recommendation I made was to substitute purple three awn, the dominant perennial grass in the area, for slender wheatgrass.

Inspector's Signature

Date:

PBB:pb

cc: Kelly Payne, Vicky Peacey, and Paula Doughty, Kennecott

Attachment: Photos

# ATTACHMENT

Photographs
M0350002, Bingham Canyon Mine, Kennecott Utah Copper Inspection Dated: May 4, 2006; Report Dated: May 4, 2006



Photo 1. The first alluvial area where we walked.



Photo 2. This area is underlain by bedrock.

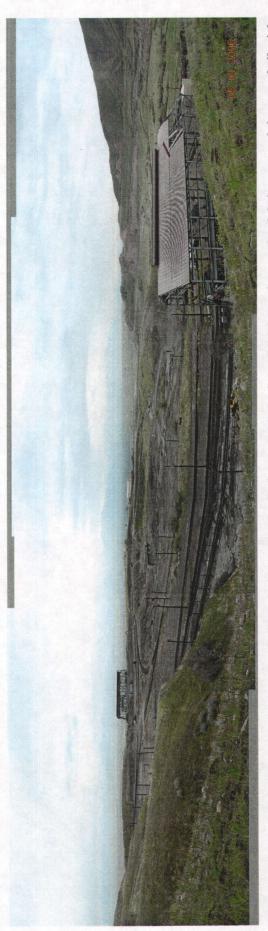


Photo 3. A panorama of the area being reclaimed. The bedrock area is in the foreground, the first alluvial area is near the right/center, and the second alluvial area is near the middle of the picture.